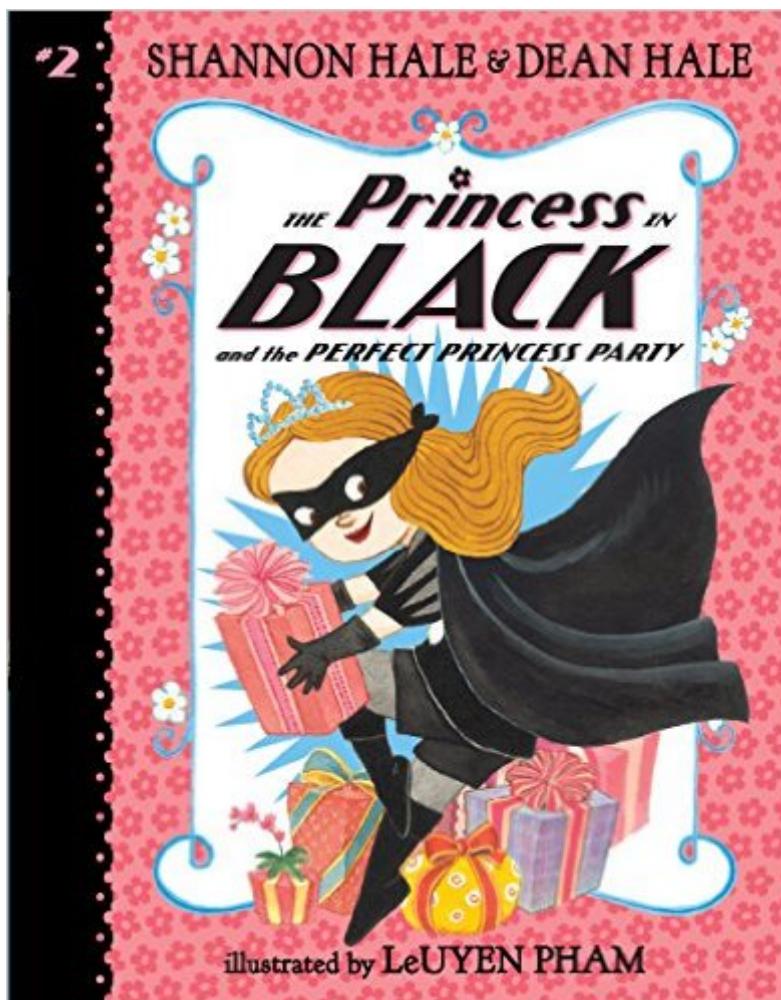


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# The Princess In Black And The Perfect Princess Party



## Synopsis

Inconvenient monster alarms, a sparkly array of princess guests, and spot-on slapstick pacing make for a party readers will celebrate. Today is Princess Magnolia's birthday party, and she wants everything to be perfect. But just as her guests are arriving . . . Brring! Brring! The monster alarm! Princess Magnolia runs to the broom closet, ditches her frilly clothes, and becomes the Princess in Black! She rushes to the goat pasture, defeats the monster, and returns to the castle before her guests discover her secret. But every time Princess Magnolia is about to open her presents, the monster alarm rings again. And every time she rushes back—“an inside-out dress here, a missing shoe there”—it gets harder to keep the other princesses from being suspicious. Don’t those monsters understand that now is not a good time for an attack?

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0340 (What's this?)

Series: Princess in Black (Book 2)

Paperback: 87 pages

Publisher: Candlewick (April 12, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0763687588

ISBN-13: 978-0763687588

Product Dimensions: 6.4 x 0.3 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (128 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,707 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #12 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Royalty #36 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Girls & Women #53 in Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Science Fiction

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## Customer Reviews

I pre-ordered this and it came in the mail yesterday. My daughter got home from school and soccer practice and was wiped out. She saw the book and devoured it. She sat in the mud room for 30 minutes without taking her shoes off until she finished the book. These books have just the right combination of words and pictures for a first chapter book.

"It's really cool that she can pop in and out of the broom closet and nobody catches her trying to change!" I am seven and I read this book in less than 30 minutes. My little sister will like it when she learns to read. It will be a good first chapter book. Good book for kids that like action and adventure and lots of pictures!

Another winner. We preordered this and forgot about it - it was such a lovely surprise when it came! My 6 year old LOVES these books, and they're just perfect beginner chapter books. 98% of the writing is phonetic or common words, with an average of 1-2 words a page she has to ask for help with. Since it's so long (yay!), we trade reading pages. She loves the "sound effects" pages and how the princess keeps getting more and more disheveled. I told her we were done for the night after 7 chapters, and she read 4 more on her own! (We're working on her reading stamina, so that's a big deal.) She loves to pretend to be the princess in black. I love that these books celebrate a princess who is girly, athletic, courageous and kind.

**Summary:** Princess Magnolia is back, doing her quick-change routine from perfect pink princess to the monster-fighting Princess in Black. This time, she's trying to enjoy her birthday party with her twelve princess guests, but that darn glitter-stone ring keeps ringing, alerting her to monster invasions. When it goes off, she ducks into the broom closet, puts on her black clothes, and rides off on her black horse, Blacky (who is usually Frimblepants the unicorn). Time and again, the ring goes off, and the princess has to dash off to fight monsters without alerting her guests to her secret identity. When a monster attacks just as the presents are about to be opened, it's the last straw. Will the princess ever get to celebrate her birthday? **Grades K-3.**  
**Pros:** The second entry in the Princess in Black series is just as winning as the first, with a spunky heroine, sly humor, and plentiful illustrations. A perfect first chapter book.  
**Cons:** Duff the Goatherd, one of my favorite characters from the first book, was almost completely absent from this installment.

We LOVE the Princess in Black series. The story is so cute and we LOVE Leyuen Pham's illustrations. I have been a fan of her work for a while now. I love the fact that the princess is dressed in black instead of your usual pink when she's fighting crime. This book was my favorite of the 2 because the illustrations were even more colorful and vivid the 2nd time around. I loved meeting all the other princesses. My daughter liked learning all the names of the different flowers. I can't wait for the 3rd book in the series!

My daughter loved the first book and enjoyed this one even more. There is no need for a long re-cap, it's about a lovely princess that also happens to be a tough monster fighter. Great book for any young girl who is equal parts frilly princess and ninja :) We can't wait for the next installment!

I'll start by saying that this is one of my all time favorite early chapter book series and all libraries that serve young readers should have it. Not only is Princess Magnolia the perfect blend of beautiful, kind, sparkly princess but she's also rough and tough when she needs to be. After all, those monsters don't seem to speak any other language, although hysterics seems to have an impact as well. Princess Magnolia does her best to be in two places at the same time (her birthday party and the goat field) but things just get harder and harder until finally she just loses it. I think anyone whose been pushed too far can relate to Magnolia's frustration, adult or child. I've also found when reading this out loud (which is an utterly delightful experience, especially if you use varying tones) that girls and boys love this equally. And why not, it's got enough princess frills to satisfy the softest heart and enough fighting and action to satisfy the adventurous heart. Highly recommended.

My 5 year old granddaughter loves the Princess in Black stories. They are set in a short chapter book approach that she loves to have read to her at bedtime by mom and dad. She is into princesses and super heroes right now so these stories are the perfect mix. The illustrations are wonderful and the stories are written in a way that makes her look forward to bedtime!

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